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REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in the application. Claims 3 and 4 are rejected. Claims 1, 2, and 5-28 are objected to. Claims 1-28 are amended herein. New claims 29-47 are added herein. No new material is added by virtue of the claim amendments or new claims presented herein.

Power of Attorney

Enclosed herewith are Power of Attorney documents executed by each of the Applicants and appointing the undersigned to prosecute this application before the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Supplemental Declaration

Enclosed herewith is a Supplemental Declaration For Utility or Design Patent Application executed by each of the Applicants. Applicants request entry of the enclosed Supplemental Declaration into the record.

Claim Objections

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Trail for her careful review of the specification and for her detailed presentation of the objections. Applicants have thoroughly reviewed the specification for any other issues in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Claims 1-10, 12-16, 18-20, 22, 24, 25, 27, and 28 are objected to because of informalities. Applicants herein amend claims 1-28 to overcome these objections. Withdrawal of the objection to these claims is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Boldin, United States Patent Application number US-2005/0218224-A1 ("Boldin"). Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended herein are patentably distinct from Boldin.

Regarding claim 3, Boldin does not disclose a secure system for mobile electronic voting, the system comprising a mobile device and one or more trusted servers, the system including: means for a unique electronic key to be assigned by the trusted election server to

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the mobile device of an eligible voter; means for activating the electronic key at a precise local date and time of an election precinct at a start of an absentee voting period and means for deactivating the electronic voting key at the precise date and local time of the election precinct at a conclusion of the absentee voting period; means for activating the electronic key at a precise local date and time of an election precinct when polls open for voting and means for deactivating the electronic voting key at the precise date and local time of the election precinct when the polls close; and means for enabling/disabling the mobile electronic voting privileges to ensure that a specifically authorized voter casts votes in accordance with election laws of the selected region using an authorized mobile device.

In contrast to Boldin, amended claim 3 includes a system comprising a mobile device and one or more trusted servers, the system including: means for a unique electronic key to be assigned by the trusted election server to the mobile device of an eligible voter; means for activating the electronic key at a precise local date and time of an election precinct at a start of an absentee voting period and means for deactivating the electronic voting key at the precise date and local time of the election precinct at a conclusion of the absentee voting period; means for activating the electronic key at a precise local date and time of an election precinct when polls open for voting and means for deactivating the electronic voting key at the precise date and local time of the election precinct when the polls close; and means for enabling/disabling the mobile electronic voting privileges to ensure that a specifically authorized voter casts votes in accordance with election laws of the selected region using an authorized mobile device. Thus, applicants respectfully submit that claim 3, as amended, is patentable over Boldin.

Additionally, as claims 5-11, depend from amended claim 3, claims 5-11 are patentable over Boldin. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC §102.

Regarding claim 4, Boldin does not disclose an apparatus for mobile electronic voting, the apparatus comprising a mobile voting machine coupled to a remote server, the apparatus including: means for defining an authorized set of voter authentication protocols; means for secure real time authentication of a voter in conjunction with the voter authentication protocols, wherein the voter authentication protocols are maintained on the remote server; means for providing at the mobile voting machine authenticated and consistent information

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related to election issues and candidates in one or more selected formats including one or more of text, audio, video, and data formats; means for receiving via the mobile voting machine a vote cast by the voter; means for recording the vote in real time at one or more of the mobile voting machine and the remote server.

In contrast to Boldin, amended claim 4 includes an apparatus for mobile electronic voting, the apparatus comprising a mobile voting machine coupled to a remote server, the apparatus including: means for defining an authorized set of voter authentication protocols; means for secure real time authentication of a voter in conjunction with the voter authentication protocols, wherein the voter authentication protocols are maintained on the remote server; means for providing at the mobile voting machine authenticated and consistent information related to election issues and candidates in one or more selected formats including one or more of text, audio, video, and data formats; means for receiving via the mobile voting machine a vote cast by the voter; means for recording the vote in real time at one or more of the mobile voting machine and the remote server. Thus, applicants respectfully submit that claim 4, as amended, is patentable over Boldin.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102, and the objections have been overcome, and their withdrawal is respectfully requested. Applicants submit that claims 1-47 are in condition for allowance. The allowance of the claims is earnestly requested. If in the opinion of Examiner Trail a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, or if there are any issues that remain to be resolved prior to allowance of the claims, Examiner Trail is encouraged to call Rick Gregory at (408) 342-1900.

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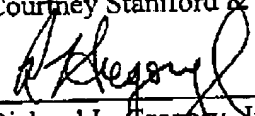
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Authorization to Charge Deposit Account

Please charge deposit account 503616 for any fees due and not paid herewith in connection with this Office Action response.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Staniford & Gregory LLP

Date: January 17, 2007


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